

abilities and attainments, distinguished at Athens in the study of Greek literature and philosophy. He fought with great success, before he became emperor, against the *Franks* and the *Aleman'ni*, German confederacies who had invaded Gaul. Brought up as a Christian, he declared himself a Pagan when he was made emperor by the troops in 361, and did what he could to root out Christianity. In 363 he invaded Persia, but was compelled to retreat by the climate and want of supplies, and being then attacked by the Persians, was killed in one of the battles that covered the Roman army's retirement beyond the Euphrates. Julian was a man of extraordinary character: virtuous in life; energetic, just, and wise in administration; a diligent and thoughtful writer, who has left, in a pure Greek style, letters, orations, and satirical works of considerable interest and humour.

2. Under the emperor *Valentinian I.* (364-375) the wars with the German barbarians continued. He was an able and vigorous ruler and general, and drove the *Aleman'ni* out of Gaul, which they had again invaded.

3. The *Goths* become at this time very prominent in the history of the decaying Empire of Rome. Of this great nation there were two divisions, the *Ostrogoths* (or *Eastern Goths*) and the *Visigoths* (or *Western Goths*). The nation as a whole extended through central Europe from the Baltic to the Black Sea. In the latter half of this century there was a compact and powerful Gothic kingdom, under a ruler named *Herman'aric*, extending over what is now Hungary and Poland. The Goths had to some extent become Christians through the teaching of their devoted countryman, bishop *Wulfilas* (or *Ul'philas*), who appears to have also invented an alphabet for them, based upon the Greek alphabet. He translated most of the Bible from the Greek (from the *Septuagint* version for the Old Testament) into the Gothic language, and of this version, most valuable for the study of the Teutonic languages (of which it is the oldest existing form), we still possess most of the New Testament and fragments of the Old.

4. A most formidable Asiatic race had already made its appearance in Europe, moving westwards from the Caspian and the Ural Mountains with irresistible ferocity and strength. They were *Tartars*, originally coming from the north-east of Asia, where they had made inroads upon China. About A.D. 374 these *Huns* crossed the Volga and the